

Message Text

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47

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IGA-02 AID-20 EB-11 OMB-01

TRSE-00 FRB-02 CIEP-02 COME-00 AGR-20 RSR-01 /186 W
----- 010064

R 231040 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8908

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

OECD PARIS 469

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 3265

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EFIN, PK, BG, JA

SUBJ: PAK- BANGLADESH DEBT DIVISION

REF: ISLAMABAD 3082

1. REFTEL REPORTED NUMEROUS PAKISTANI NEWS ARTICLES QUOTING UNNAMED JAPANESE SPOKESMAN TO EFFECT THAT CONSORTIUM COUNTRIES HAVE WARNED PAKISTAN THAT THEY WOULD SUSPEND AID IN UNISON AFTER JULY 1, 1973, IF PAKISTAN CEASES PAYMENT FOR BANGLADESH PORTION AND THERE HAS BEEN NO PROGRESS CONCERNING DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITY OF THIS DEBT.

2. ARTICLE IN APRIL 21 EDITION GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED PAKISTAN TIMES STATES THAT TOKYO REPORT (REFTEL) WAS CONTRADICTED BY STATEMENT THAT CONSORTIUM CHAIRMAN I. P. M. CARGIL MADE DURING RECENT VISIT TO PAKISTAN THAT " APPARENTLY RULES OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF ANY NEW FREEZING OF PAKISTAN' S AID PIPELINE IN THE EVENT OF ITS STOPPING FROM JULY THIS YEAR REPAYMENTS OF LOANS DISBURSED IN EAST PAKISTAN." ARTICLE STATES " PAKISTAN UNCLASSIFIED

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HAS BEEN ASSURED BY THE WORLD BANK THAT THERE WILL BE NO DISCRIMINATION BETWEEN ISLAMABAD AND DACCA IN THE COMMITMENT OF FRESH ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PENDING THE FINAL SETTLEMENT ON REDETERMINING ITS OVERALL DEBT LIABILITY OF PRE- DECEMBER, 1971, PERIOD."

3. ARTICLE ALLEGES THAT APART FROM ASSURANCES MENTIONED ABOVE, THERE IS UNDERSTOOD TO BE VIRTUAL UNANIMITY AMONG CONSORTIUM MEMBERS ABOUT PAKISTAN' S CONTENTION THAT REPAYMENT RESPONSIBILITIES SHOULD REST WITH THE REGION WHICH BENEFITS BY THEM. IT ALSO ALLEGES " THE ONLY CONSORTIUM MEMBER WHICH SEEMS TO HAVE SOME RESERVATION ABOUT THIS POSITION IS JAPAN, TWO- THIRDS OF WHOSE TOTAL HARD LOANS WERE DISBURSED IN THE EASTERN WING BEFORE DECEMBER, 1971."

4. ARTICLE CONCLUDES BY STATING THAT NOT WITHSTANDING IBRD ASSURANCE, GOP MUST PREPARE ITSELF FOR ANY EVENTUALITY IF THE PROPOSED CONSORTIUM MEETING NEXT MONTH IS NOT ABLE TO MAKE ANY FINAL DECISION ON PAKISTAN' S PLEA FOR ABSOLVING IT OF THE RESPONSIBILITY TO REPAY THE LIABILITY PERTAINING TO BANGLADESH.
SANDERHOFF

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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